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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/682,571	10/09/2003	Ryan D. Bedwell	SC12995TH	1744

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FREESCALE SEMICONDUCTOR, INC.
LAW DEPARTMENT
7700 WEST PARMER LANE MD:TX32/PL02
AUSTIN, TX 78729

EXAMINER

PATEL, NIMESH G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2111

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/12/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/682,571	Applicant(s) BEDWELL ET AL.	
	Examiner Nimesh G. Patel	Art Unit 2111	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 25-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 37-56 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 25-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) ☐ Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Newly submitted claims 37-56 directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: Claims 37-44 are directed to a resource that requires endpoint circuitry and claims 45-56 are directed to a system that does not have additional steering logic for the communication path. Invention of claims 25-36 do not require the particulars of subcombinations or species in claims 37-56.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 37-56 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 25-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watkins et al.(US 20030182492).

4. Regarding claim 25, Watkins discloses a data processing system, comprising: a system bus(Figure 7, 22); a first bus master(Figure 7, 14) coupled to the system bus; a second bus master(Figure 7, 16) coupled to the system bus; a resource(Figure 7, 30) coupled to the system bus and useable by the first bus master and the second bus master, wherein the resource is configurable to be owned by at least one of the first bus master and the second bus master(e.g. Paragraph 11); and additional signal steering logic which establishes a communication path between the resource

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and at least one of the first bus master and the second bus master, wherein the communication path is used to transfer at least one additional signal between the resource and the at least one of the first bus master and the second bus master(e.g. Paragraphs 71-72 and 89-90).

Watkins does not specifically disclose a data processing system, wherein the communication path is determined by the resource. However, Watkins discloses that the device ownership information could also be stored elsewhere, and then retrieved by the bridge in order to perform this routing. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include the ownership information in the resource, thereby letting the resource determine the communication path.

5. Regarding claim 26, Watkins discloses a data processing system, wherein the communication path is determined by a current state of the resource(e.g. Paragraph 78).

6. Regarding claim 27, Watkins discloses a data processing system, wherein the current state of the resource comprises an operating mode of the resource(e.g. Paragraph 78).

7. Regarding claim 28, Watkins discloses a data processing system, wherein the communication path is determined based a map definition defined by the resource(e.g. Paragraph 72).

8. Regarding claim 29, Watkins discloses a data processing system, wherein the additional signal steering logic comprises map definition storage circuitry, which stores the map definition(e.g. Paragraph 72).

9. Regarding claim 30, Watkins discloses a data processing system, wherein the additional signal steering logic establishes the communication path between the resource and both the first bus master and the second bus master(e.g. Paragraph 78).

10. Regarding claim 31, Watkins discloses a data processing system, wherein the at least one additional signal is not a part of the system bus(e.g. Paragraph 88).

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11. Regarding claim 32, Watkins discloses a data processing system, wherein the system bus operates according to a system bus protocol, and the at least one additional signal operates outside the system bus protocol(e.g. Paragraph 83).

12. Regarding claim 33, Watkins discloses a data processing system, wherein the resource comprises at least a portion of the additional signal steering logic(Figure 8).

13. Regarding claim 34, Watkins discloses a method for communicating an additional signal in a data processing system having a system bus, comprising: establishing a communication path between a resource(Figure 7, 30) coupled to the system bus(Figure 7, 22) and at least one of a plurality of bus masters(Figure 7, 14, 16) coupled to the system bus; and transferring the additional signal, separate from the system bus, between the resource and the at least one of the plurality of bus masters via the communication path(e.g. Paragraphs 71-72 and 88-90).

Watkins does not specifically disclose a data processing system, wherein the communication path is determined by the resource. However, Watkins discloses that the device ownership information could also be stored elsewhere, and then retrieved by the bridge in order to perform this routing(Paragraph 17). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include the ownership information in the resource, thereby letting the resource determine the communication path.

14. Regarding claim 35, Watkins discloses a method, wherein establishing the communication path comprises: determining a current state of the resource; and establishing the communication path based on the current state of the resource(e.g. Paragraph 78).

15. Regarding claim 36, Watkins discloses a method, wherein establishing the communication path comprises: providing a map definition defined by the resource; and establishing the communication path based on the map definition(e.g. Paragraph 72).

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Response to Arguments

16. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 25-36 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nimesh G. Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-3640. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinehart H. Mark can be reached on 571-272-3632. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Nimesh G Patel
Examiner
Art Unit 2111

NP
June 5, 2007



Glenn A. Auve
Primary Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100